I. REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1-14 and 19-22 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 11 and 19, which are independent, are amended. Claims 15-18 have been previously canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Support for this amendment is provided throughout the Specification as originally filed and specifically at pages 19, line 21 - page 20, line 3. No new matter has been introduced by this amendment. Changes to claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which the Applicants are entitled.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-2, 6-9, 11-13 and 19-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,940,076 to Sommers et al. (hereinafter, merely "Sommers") in view of European Patent Application No. 0609819 to Gilligan et al. (hereinafter, merely "Gilligan").

Claim 1, as amended, recites, inter alia:

"An information processing apparatus for executing predetermined processing...

jog dial means for enabling an operator to perform said first operation, said second operation, and said third operation,

wherein said jog dial means comprises a programmable power key (PPK) which activates a desired software program or script file while the information processing apparatus is in power save mode or with the power being off..." (emphasis added)

As understood by Applicants, Sommers relates to a method and apparatus for providing a graphical user interface for an electronic device. A communication device including a display for presenting information to a user whereby options/features are displayed in user selectable fields located alone in an arc on the display. Each of the selectable fields highlights an application of the electronic device which represent subsets of available applications.

Applications and associated graphics are scrolled through via a clockwise or counterclockwise direction along the arc.

As understood by Applicants, Gilligan relates to a manual input device for controlling a cursor on a computer display (e.g., a mouse), which has a supplementary control device comprising a displaceable knob mounted on one side of the mouse housing, with the supplementary control being provided for concurrent scrolling and pointing. The supplementary control device generates a supplementary control signal in response to operation of the knob, which is designed to be operated by the thumb of the same hand, which holds the mouse. An associated method is provided for dynamically setting scrolling parameters through detection of pre-defined patterns in the cursor's trail, at the same time the mouse is operated. The scrolling direction is set in correspondence to the dominant axis present in the cursor's trail.

Applicants submit that Sommers and Gilligan, taken alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest the above-identified features of claim 1. Specifically, Applicants submit that there is no teaching or suggestion, in the cited references, of jog dial means comprising a

programmable power key (PPK) which activates a desired software program or script file while the information processing apparatus is in power save mode or with the power being off, as recited in amended claim 1. Therefore, Applicants submit that claim 1 is patentable.

For reasons similar to those described above with regard to independent claim 1, independent claims 11 and 19 are also believed to be patentable.

Therefore, Applicants submit that independent claims 1, 11 and 19 are patentable.

III. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims are each dependent from one of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for at least the above-identified reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosures in the cited reference, or references, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference, or references, providing the basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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